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no changes from the old plan, although I have written to all of the Pacific coast quarantine officers again, giving the details of our work for their convenience. The board of health is most energetic and thorough in their work of handling the situation, and therefore I do not regard the outlook as a serious one.

Respectfully,

L. E. COFER,  
Passed Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.,  
Chief Quarantine Officer, Hawaii.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,  
U. S. Marine Hospital Service.

#### HONDURAS.

##### *Weekly report of conditions and transactions at La Ceiba—Fruit port.*

LA CEIBA, HONDURAS, May 17, 1902.

SIR: I have the honor to make the following report of the conditions and transactions at this port during the week ended May 17, 1902:

Population according to census—no official census. Present officially estimated population, about 4,000. Number of cases and deaths from yellow fever during the week, none; number of cases and deaths from smallpox during the week, none; number of cases and deaths from typhus fever during the week, none; number of cases and deaths from cholera during the week, none; number of cases and deaths from plague during the week, none; number of deaths from other causes during the week, 1. Prevailing disease, malaria. General sanitary condition of this port and the surrounding country during the week, good.

Bills of health were issued to the following vessels: May 11, steamship *David*, number of crew, 23; number of passengers from this port, none; number of passengers in transit, none; pieces of baggage disinfected, none. May 15, steamship *Polonia*, number of crew, 6; number of passengers from this port, none; number of passengers in transit, none; pieces of baggage disinfected, none; steamship *Usk*, number of crew, 20; number of passengers from this port, none; number of passengers in transit, none; pieces of baggage disinfected, none; steamship *Condor*, number of crew, 16; number of passengers from this port, none; number of passengers in transit, none; pieces of baggage disinfected, none.

Respectfully,

W. B. ROBERTSON,  
Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,  
U. S. Marine Hospital Service.

#### ITALY.

##### *Report from Naples—Inspection at Palermo.*

NAPLES, ITALY, May 12, 1902.

SIR: I have the honor to report that for the week ended May 10, 1902, the following ships were inspected at Naples:

May 5, the steamship *Scotia*, of the Hamburg-American Line, bound with passengers and cargo for New York. There were inspected and passed 491 steerage passengers and 90 pieces of large baggage; 850 pieces of baggage were disinfected by steam.

May 6, the steamship *Roma*, of the Fabre Line, bound with passengers and cargo for New York. There were inspected and passed 1,298 steer-

age passengers and 220 pieces of large baggage; 1,600 pieces of baggage were disinfected by steam.

May 6, the steamship *Spartan Prince*, of the Prince Line, bound with passengers and cargo for New York. There were inspected and passed 586 steerage passengers and 55 pieces of large baggage; 950 pieces of baggage were disinfected by steam.

May 8, the steamship *Lombardia*, of the Italian General Navigation Company, bound with passengers and cargo for New York. There were inspected and passed 1,183 steerage passengers and 75 pieces of large baggage; 1,200 pieces of baggage were disinfected by steam.

May 8, the steamship *Aller*, of the North German Lloyd Steamship Company, bound with passengers and cargo for New York. There were inspected and passed 736 steerage passengers and 88 pieces of large baggage; 950 pieces of baggage were disinfected by steam.

May 8, the steamship *Rio Amazonas*, of the Ligurian and Brazilian Line, bound with passengers and cargo for New York. There were inspected and passed 923 steerage passengers and 220 pieces of large baggage; 1,400 pieces of baggage were disinfected by steam.

May 9, the steamship *Calabria*, of the Anchor Line, bound with passengers and cargo for New York. There were inspected and passed 1,244 steerage passengers and 245 pieces of large baggage; 1,600 pieces of baggage were disinfected by steam.

May 10, the steamship *Neustria*, of the Fabre Line, bound with passengers and cargo for New York. There were inspected and passed 885 steerage passengers and 200 pieces of large baggage; 1,200 pieces of baggage were disinfected by steam.

*Inspection at Palermo.*

At Palermo for the week ended May 10, 1902, the following steamship was inspected: May 7, the steamship *Spartan Prince*, of the Prince Line, bound with passengers and cargo for New York. There were inspected and passed 435 steerage passengers and 207 pieces of large baggage; 750 pieces of baggage were disinfected by steam.

Respectfully,

J. M. EAGER,

*Passed Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.*

The SURGEON-GENERAL,

*U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.*

NAPLES, ITALY, *May 19, 1902.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that for the week ended May 17, 1902, the following ships were inspected at Naples:

May 12, the steamship *Neckar*, of the North German Lloyd Steamship Company, bound with passengers and cargo for New York. There were inspected and passed 2,398 steerage passengers and 420 pieces of large baggage; 3,200 pieces of baggage were disinfected by steam.

May 13, the steamship *Palatia*, of the Hamburg American Line, bound with passengers and cargo for New York. There were inspected and passed 1,799 steerage passengers and 218 pieces of large baggage; 2,200 pieces of baggage were disinfected by steam.

May 14, the steamship *Citta di Milano*, of the Veloce Line, bound with passengers and cargo for New York. There were inspected and passed 1,357 steerage passengers and 250 pieces of large baggage; 1,400 pieces of baggage were disinfected by steam.

May 14, the steamship *Bolivia*, of the Anchor Line, bound with passengers and cargo for New York. There were inspected and passed

1,119 steerage passengers and 150 pieces of large baggage ; 1,200 pieces of baggage were disinfected by steam.

May 15, the steamship *Bohenzollern*, of the North German Lloyd Steamship Company, bound with passengers and cargo for New York. There were inspected and passed 642 steerage passengers and 120 pieces of large baggage ; 850 pieces of baggage were disinfected by steam.

May 16, the steamship *Equita*, of the Zini Line, bound with passengers and cargo for New York. There were inspected and passed 405 steerage passengers and 36 pieces of large baggage ; 800 pieces of baggage were disinfected by steam.

May 17, the steamship *Marco Minghetti*, of the Italian General Navigation Company, bound with passengers and cargo for New York. There were inspected and passed 762 steerage passengers and 102 pieces of large baggage ; 900 pieces of baggage were disinfected by steam.

*Smallpox at Naples.*

During the week ended May 17, 1902, there were officially reported at Naples 5 cases of smallpox with no deaths. There are several centers of emigration in the south of Italy, where smallpox is prevalent.

Respectfully,

J. M. EAGER.

*Passed Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.*

The SURGEON-GENERAL,

*U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.*

*Sterilization of salads.*

NAPLES, ITALY, May 16, 1902.

SIR : I have the honor to submit the following report :

*The sterilization of salads.*

The news reports to the effect that the recent outbreak of the Asiatic cholera at Manila was due to an importation of germs on fresh vegetables brought from Hongkong has given rise to a discussion in Italian medical journals as to the appropriate methods for the sterilization of crude greens. The subject is of especial interest in Italy, where salads form one of the staples of diet. In times of epidemics the question has a bearing on maritime hygiene. Large quantities of salad plants, lettuce, congeners of the cabbage, fennel, and other greens, are usually carried on board ship by emigrants leaving Italy. During the cholera epidemic in 1893, all such articles were prohibited and their exclusion was made a condition to granting the United States consular bill of health. Heat is, of course, inapplicable to the sterilization of fresh food stuffs, inasmuch as their virtues as articles of diet depend largely on their being eaten raw. Popular opinion naturally tends to the view that any hygienic measures applied to salad vegetables should be on the principle of asepsis rather than antiseptics. While the palatability of fresh greens might not be affected by suitable chemical treatment, it is easily understood that the impression produced by the antisepticizing would not be conducive to good cheer. Yet one experimenter, G. Ceresole, writing in the *Policlinico*, recommends the use of tartaric acid. He states that a sample of salad infected experimentally with a culture of the cholera spirillum was sterilized in five minutes by a 2 per cent watery solution of tartaric acid. To avert danger from the consumption of crude greens it is sufficient to immerse them for half